## Today's News - Monday, January 14, 2008

We welcome back ArcSpace (after a long-deserved vacation) with an eyeful of Hadid's Innsbruck railway, and Chicago's Burnham reborn. — Yudelson's green building predictions for '08. — NYT HQ didn't go for LEED rating, but it is no less green. — Sign up now for green webcasts, competitions, and a teach-in. — More than inconvenient is sustainability hype. — Campbell gives thumbs-up to Nelson-Atkins expansion (and the challenges it offers Boston). — Controversy continues to swirl "rush-job revamp" of Robson Square (even Erickson may not sign off on remake - and just when will they show images?). — Kamin more than a bit disappointed in new (perhaps not all the architects' fault). — Russell on De Montebello's departure from the Met: he "leaves a difficult legacy for his successor." — Saffron still has a little hope left (or not) for Philadelphia's riverfront development. — British economic reports have been rather gloomy - but we found £1 billion projects in the news. — Farrell tapped to give New Delhi's railway station a major makeover. — Some of San Francisco's new public spaces "signal the rise of interactive design emerging and melding with street life."

Zaha Hadid Architects: Nordpark Cable Railway, Innsbruck, Austria Hotel Burnham/Reliance Building, Chicago Burnham and Root (1891); Antunovich Associates; Harboe Architects/McClier; Susan Caruso
The business case for green buildings 2008: To sum up 2007 in a

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The business case for green buildings 2008: To sum up 2007 in a nutshell: the business community has totally bought into green buildings...The only question now is: How fast will "building green" become the norm for all corporate and developer decisions? By Jerry Yudelson- Building (UK)

News-making tower: The New York Times Building in Manhattan is the best in clever and yet subtle architecture but its designers have bucked the trend and not tried for LEED accreditation, opting instead to build for user comfort. Does this bode well for skyscraper design in the 21st Century? — Renzo Piano; FXFowle; Gensler [images, links]- Building (UK)

Architecture 2030/Metropolis magazine National Webcast "Face It: There Is a Solution to Global Warming," "Reverberate"
Competitions, and "Focus the Nation" event Address Global Warming Solutions; January 30-31- Architecture 2030

Focus the Nation National Teach-In: Global Warming Solutions for America - January 31- Focus the Nation

Op-Ed: Little Ms. Modern: More than inconvenient: sustainability hype: ...buildings are actually our nation's greediest gas-guzzlers...architects and civil engineers have a great responsibility and opportunity to reduce this harmful impact...designing buildings with sustainability in mind is not something we can afford to treat as a trend, nor in a state of frenzy. By Caitlin Mueller- Stanford Daily (California)

Another museum that's a work of art: The Bloch Building, in Kansas City, is playful and inventive...For a city like Boston, the Bloch offers a challenge... By Robert Campbell -- Steven Holl; Berkebile Nelson Immenschuh McDowell (BNIM); Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Renzo Piano; Norman Foster; Moshe Safdie-Boston Globe

Robson Square rush-job revamp not a good idea: Controversy over addition to downtown gathering place continues to grow...Arthur Erickson, the man who created Robson Square, has been closely consulting on the facelift -- costing at least \$87 million...may not be signing off on the remake after all.- Vancouver Sun

Tower doesn't live up to its prime real estate: With a tall, thin profile that recalls the Art Deco skyscrapers of the 1920s...But the Michigan Avenue cliff demands style with a capital "S,"...even if the Columbian is well-mannered, good manners don't necessarily make good architecture. By Blair Kamin -- De Stefano + Partners-Chicago Tribune

De Montebello's Met Design Legacy: Glorious Courts, Dim Halls: ...is rightly feted for leaving New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art much richer...leaves a difficult legacy for his successor. By James S. Russell -- Richard Morris Hunt (1902); Kevin Roche John

Dinkeloo & Associates [images]- Bloomberg News

Chance to save riverfront: PennPraxis' recent report on the waterfront offered a far more imaginative vision for the Delaware...But judging from the look of the development proposals that have been clustering around the casino sites like barnacles, we know what it will be if the slots parlors are built. By Inga Saffron-Philadelphia Inquirer

Welcome to paradise: How do you co-ordinate a £1bn budget, 40 buildings, 22 architects and 90 consultants to deliver the most ambitious regeneration scheme Liverpool has ever seen? ...the man who has to do it...Rod Holmes, retail projects director Grosvenor. — Glenn Howells; CZWG; Austin-Smith:Lord; Building Design Partnership (BDP); Pelli Clarke Pelli; etc. [images, link]-Building (UK)

<u>Urban Splash and Hammerson have won the £1 billion project to</u> regenerate Swansea city centre...developers...could hold a series of design competitions as the mammoth scheme progresses. — <u>BDP (Building Design Partnership)</u>- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Coventry city centre £1bn redevelopment plan: ...has remained almost untouched since the 1950s..."It was pioneering but now it's dated and tired and in need of a complete rethink"... – Jerde Partnership- BBC News

Wish You Were Here: Developers are already lining up for a slice of the multi-million pound action that is the new look Torbay...the blueprint for New English Riviera being billed as 'one of the most beautiful seafront cities in Europe' ...the potential for 3,000 extra homes... – LDA Design [images, links]- South Devon Herald Express (UK)

Rs 5000-crore plan to convert the New Delhi railway station into a world-class facility...set to change the way the station exists and functions -- Terry Farrell- Express India

New city plazas: Digital or not, interactivity key to great design:
...two relatively new pedestrian lanes - ...signal the rise of
interactive design emerging and melding with street life downtown.
By Zahid Sardar — Patri Merker Architects; Christopher
Chadbourne & Associates; Willett Moss; Walter Hood [images]San Francisco Chronicle

INSIGHT: Mod Mods: Manufacturing Markets for Modulars: With market forces finally putting wind in the sails of pre-fab, the promise of sales should finally save industrial production of housing from the utopia to which it has been consigned. By John Newman, AIA- ArchNewsNow

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